

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 ROME 11297 131910Z

46

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 IO-13 SAJ-01

ACDA-07 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /081 W

----- 127737

P R 131657Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8822

INFO AMCONSUL MILAN

AMCONSUL NAPLES

DIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ROME 11297

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, IT

SUBJ: POLITICAL ROUND-UP

1. PRESIDENT LEONE BEGAN A TWO-DAY ROUND OF CONSULTATIONS WITH POLITICAL LEADERS ON JULY 12 IN CONNECTION WITH HIS RESPONSIBILITY TO DESIGNATE A CANDIDATE TO FORM A NEW GOVERNMENT. AMONG THOSE WHO MET WITH LEONE JULY 12 WERE THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC (DC) AND COMMUNIST (PCI) LEADERSHIPS. FOLLOWING INTENSE INTRA-PARTY DEBATE, DC PARTY SECRETARY ZACCAGNINI SUBMITTED THE NAMES OF BUDGET MINISTER ANDREOTTI AND PRIME MINISTER MORO AS POTENTIAL DESIGNEES FOR THE OFFICE. SINCE VIRTUALLY ALL OBSERVERS AGREE THAT MORO'S NAME WAS PUT FORWARD AS A MATTER OF COURTESY FOR HIS PAST SERVICES TO THE PARTY, INCLUDING HIS ROLE IN THE RECENTLY CONCLUDED ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN, THERE IS GENERAL CONSENSUS THAT THE NAME OF ANDREOTTI WILL EMERGE AT THE END OF LEONE'S CONSULTATIONS. PEOPLE ARE SAYING THAT ANDREOTTI WILL RECEIVE THE NOD TO TRY TO FORM A GOVERNMENT BY JULY 14.

2. AT THE CONCLUSION OF THEIR MEETING WITH LEONE, THE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 ROME 11297 131910Z

COMMUNISTS ISSUED A STATEMENT IN WHICH THEY REITERATED

THEIR BELIEF THAT ITALY AT THIS MOMENT HAS NEED OF A GOVERNMENT WHICH IS FOUNDED ON A "LARGE POPULAR CONSENSUS" AND WHICH CAN COUNT ON THE COLLABORATION OF ALL THE DEMOCRATIC FORCES. THE STATEMENT ADDED THAT THE PCI IS PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY EFFORT "TO REALIZE AN AGREEMENT WHICH WOULD LEAD TO A MAJORITY AND A GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL SOLIDARITY." INDICATING A MEASURE OF FLEXIBILITY IN THE PCI POSITION, THE STATEMENT SAID THAT REGARDING ANOTHER GOVERNMENTAL FORMULATION, THE PARTY WOULD HAVE TO EVALUATE "THE POLITICAL AND PROGRAMMATIC PROPOSALS THAT WILL BE FORMULATED BY THE OTHER PARTIES AND TO DECIDE AUTONOMOUSLY" ITS ATTITUDE.

3. ON ANOTHER AREA OF THE POLITICAL FRONT, THE MSI CONCLUDED A TWO-DAY CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING JULY 11 AT WHICH SHARP DIVISIONS IN THE PARTY EMERGED. IN THE FACE OF WIDELY VARYING POSITIONS, PARTY SECRETARY ALMIRANTE MANAGED TO PRESERVE HIS POSITION BY AGREEING TO CALL FOR A SPECIAL NATIONAL CONGRESS OF THE PARTY TO BE HELD IN OCTOBER. MODERATES IN THE MSI, WHO WISH TO LEAD THE PARTY OUT OF ITS ISOLATION AND HOPEFULLY BACK INTO THE MAINSTREAM OF ITALIAN POLITICAL LIFE, HAVE REPORTEDLY AGREED TO FORM THE NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY IF THEIR ATTEMPTS TO BRING ABOUT RADICAL REFORMS OF THE MSI ARE UNSUCCESSFUL. ON THE OTHER HAND, AN ELEMENT ON THE RIGHT OF THE PARTY, WHICH WAS WEAKENED BY THE NON-ELECTION OF A NUMBER OF THEIR LEADING EXPONENTS IN THE RECENT NATIONAL ELECTIONS, IS CALLING FOR A HARDER LINE BY THE MSI. IN ANY EVENT, ALMIRANTE'S STANDING WITHIN THE PARTY HAS BEEN SHARPLY REDUCED.

4. A WEEKEND SESSION OF THE LIBER PARTY'S (PLI) NATIONAL COUNCIL CONFIRMED THE LINE ADOPTED AT THE PLI'S CONGRESS LAST APRIL. DEFINING THE PARTY AS NEO-CENTRIST, PARTY SECRETARY ZANONE SAID THT THE PLI REJECTS ANY RIGHT CONSERVATISM BUT AT THE SAME TIME REMAINS FIRMLY OPPOSED TO THE COMMUNISTS. ZANONE WAS RECONFIRMED AS THE PARTY SECRETARY WHILE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 ROME 11297 131910Z

A GROUP OF APPROXIMATELY 15 NATIONAL COUNCILORS, LED BY FORMER AMBASSADOR SOGNO NOW UNDER INDICTMENT FOR INVOLVEMENT IN AN ALLEGED COUP AGAINT THE STATE, ANNOUNCED ITS INTENTION TO LEAVE THE PLI AND FORM A NEW POLITICAL ORGANIZATION.

5. THE RADICAL PARTY, WHICH SUCCEEDED IN GAINING FOUR SEATS IN THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES IN THE RECENT

ELECTIONS, IS CONVENING A NATIONAL CONGRESS FOR THE PERIOD JULY 16-18. CENTRAL AIM OF THE CONGRESS IS TO ESTABLISH A POLICY TO BE FOLLOWED BY THE PARTY'S NEWLY ELECTED PARLIAMENTARIANS.

6. FINALLY, THE POST-ELECTORAL PERIOD HAS REVEALED CONTINUING DIVISIONS AMONG THE EXTRA-PARLIAMENTARY (SIC) LEFT, WHICH SUCCEEDED IN WINNING SIX SEATS IN THE NEW PARLIAMENT. IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE ELECTION, LOTTA CONTINUA, WHICH HAD PARTICIPATED IN THE JOINT ELECTORAL LIST, ANNOUNCED ITS WITHDRAWAL FROM THE ALLIANCE. A JUST CONCLUDED PDUP CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING ENDED INCONCLUSIVELY WITH THE PARTY SPLIT SHARPLY OVER THE TACTICS TO BE FOLLOWED IN THE AFTERMATH OF ITS RELATIVELY DISAPPOINTING ELECTORAL PERFORMANCE.BEAUDRY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, CABINET, FORM OF GOVERNMENT, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ROME11297
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760270-0023
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760764/aaaacebs.tel
Line Count: 130
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 APR 2004 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <26 AUG 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POLITICAL ROUND-UP
TAGS: PINT, IT
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006